

Country's Oldest Fair June 20

The oldest continuing summer fair in the country is set to go again this year at the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church in Duxbury on Saturday, June 20, 9-3.

For nearly 150 years, the First Parish Church Summer Fair has beckoned crowds to the sprawling green in front of the historic New England Church established by John Alden and Elder Brewster. Every summer the smell of a sizzling grill fills the air; entertainment fills the stage, and white elephant bargains as well as prized antiques fill the trunks and back seats of fair goers.

The fair has a well-earned reputation for "finds" and fun, and this year will have plenty of both. A children's area will offer activities for families, and musicians, storytellers and dancers will entertain "country-fair-style" throughout the day.

The white elephant table boasts something for everyone with the patience to look. And for those looking for bigger-ticket bargains, the bidding is sure to be fast and furious when Lynn Calista from Cornucopia Auction gets the auction underway at 11. This year, a sizable antique stained glass window is expected to

generate a great deal of excitement among bidders. As always, there will be plenty of antiques and furniture, with the auction continuing until 1.

Plants, hand-crafted items, and books will also be sold. Strawberry shortcake will be available and a visiting cow will keep everyone in suspense, as raffle tickets are sold, with a cash prize going to the person who "owns" the spot where the cow "plops."

This long-standing fair is the church's major fundraiser, as well as a way of building community and friendship, both for everyone who volunteers to work as well as those who attend.

Rain date for the fair is the following week, June 27.